

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A color image forming apparatus is provided with a semiconductor laser array 1 of which laser beam emitting points 1-1 ~ 1-12 are arranged  $m$  ( $m \geq 2$ ) in the row direction thereof and  $n$  in the line direction thereof as the same number of the photosensitive drums 9; a beam splitting means 4 which splits the respective laser beams for every lines on the semiconductor laser array 1 so that  $m$  laser beams emitted from one of the rows on the semiconductor laser array 1 scan a same photosensitive drum 9 among thereof; and a beam deflection means 6 which deflects in common  $n$  laser beams for every lines emitted from the semiconductor laser array 1 and irradiates the same onto the respective photosensitive drums 9, wherein, the arrangement direction of  $m$  beam spots irradiated onto one of the photosensitive drums 9 is inclined by an angle  $\alpha 2$  with respect to the main scanning direction, thereby, through the common use of the scan optical system for the plurality of laser beams the size and cost of the apparatus are reduced.